

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 were issued in U.S. Patent No. 6,245,048. By way of this Preliminary Amendment, claim 5 has been cancelled, claims 1, 6-8, 11-12, 18 and 22 have been amended, and new claims 23-46 have been added.

Statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.173(c)

The supporting disclosure in the patent for the changes made to the claims and for the new claims is as follows:

Claims 1, 11, 12, 18 and 22:

Claims 1, 11, 12, 18 and 22, as amended, is supported at least by Figures 2a, 2b, 3a, and 3b and the disclosure at col. 4, line 9 to col. 5, line 41.

Claims 6-8:

The amendments to claims 6-8 are to change dependency to new claim 23, which recites a retention means no longer recited in claim 1. Claim 6, as amended, is supported at least by Figures 2a and 2b, and the disclosure at col. 4, lines 9 to 47. Claim 7, as amended, is supported at least by Figure 7b, and the disclosure at col. 7, line 63, to col. 8, line 6. Claim 8, as amended, is supported at least by Figures 7a and 2b, and the disclosure at col. 7, line 63, to col. 8, line 6.

Claim 23:

New claim 23 are supported at least by issued claim 1, Figures 2a and 2b, and the disclosure at col. 4, line 9 to col. 5, line 41.

Claims 24 and 45:

New independent claims 24 and 45 are supported at least by Figures 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b and 4, the disclosure at col. 4, line 9 to col. 5, line 41, and col. 6, line 54 to col. 7, line 62. Claim 45 is also supported by the disclosure at col. 10, lines 1-2.

Claims 25-44:

New claims 25-44 are dependent on claim 24, and are supported at least by issued claims 1-22, Figures 2a, 2b, 3a, 3b, 4, 5, 6, 7a and 7b, and the disclosure at col. 4, line 9 to col. 8, line 6.

Claim 46:

New claim 46 is supported at least by issued claim 3.

Respectfully submitted,

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